



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

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FOR RELEASE AT WILL

:30 PSA--HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Hurricanes and tropical storms like Jeanne, Gaston and Isabel have taken

lives, destroyed homes and devastated businesses. It's time to get ready,

Virginia. Don't wait until it's too late. The best way to survive a hurricane

is to be prepared well before it shows up on your local weather report.

Visit Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV now to learn three simple, low-cost

steps every Virginian should take to be prepared.

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:30 PSA--HURRICANE EVACUATION (COASTAL AREAS)

If a hurricane is approaching and officials advise you to evacuate, do so

immediately. Don't wait to see if the storm will change course. Leaving

early can help you avoid crowded highways, flooded or blocked

roads, and downed power lines. Stay informed, and learn your hurricane

evacuation route. Visit Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV now to learn three

simple, low-cost steps every Virginian should take to be prepared.

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:30 PSA--PREPARING YOUR HOME

If a hurricane is approaching and officials have not advised you to

evacuate, take steps to protect your home from damage. Board up

windows or close storm shutters. Tie down or move outdoor objects that

could blow away. Mobile home residents should leave and take shelter

inside a sturdy building. Visit Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV now to learn

three simple, low-cost steps every Virginian should take to be prepared.

###

:30 PSA--FLOOD INSURANCE

Did you know that your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy does

not cover flood damage? In fact, nearly one quarter of all flood insurance

claims come from areas considered to be a low or moderate flood risk.

Don't delay in protecting your home for hurricane season. There is a 30-

day waiting period before coverage goes into effect. Contact a licensed

flood insurance agent. To learn other ways to protect your home and

family, visit Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV.

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:30 PSA—FLOODING (INLAND AREAS)

Fact: floods cause more damage and loss of life nationwide than any other

natural disaster. During hurricane season in Virginia, inland areas suffer

more federally declared disasters than coastal areas. Be aware of weather

conditions in your area and know how to get to higher ground quickly.

Never drive through flooded areas. Learn hurricane and flood safety at

Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV.

###

:30 PSA--DRIVING SAFETY

It's a fact: most flood deaths happen when people try to drive on a flooded

road. It's hard to tell how deep the water is, and just two feet of water will

carry away most vehicles, including SUVs and pickup trucks. Never drive

through water – turn around and find another route. If water surrounds

your vehicle, get out and climb to higher ground immediately. It could

happen to you. Learn more flood safety tips at Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV.

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:30 PSA – WATCH vs. WARNING

All Virginians should know the difference between a flood watch and a warning. A flood watch means there is a strong possibility that your area will flood, and you should continue to listen for weather updates. A flood warning means that your area is flooding now – you need to get to higher ground immediately. If you drive into a flooded area, never drive through water and get out of your car if water surrounds your vehicle. Learn more flood safety tips at Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV.

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:15 PSA--FLOOD INSURANCE

Did you know that your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy does not cover flood damage? Contact a licensed flood insurance agent now.

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:15 HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

Hurricane season is here, and tropical storms can hit any area in Virginia.

Don't be a victim – get ready now for the potentially devastating effects of

flooding, tornadoes and power outages. Visit Ready-Virginia-DOT-GOV

to learn more.